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Newsletter

Number 34

13 December 2013



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

.. To those who shared our Team Athletics Day with us and to Mrs Robertson and team for organising the day.

.. To those who managed to get along to our parent helpers morning tea .. thanks for your support over 2013.

.. To parents of year 8 students who have assisted with the purchase of leaving books.

.. Toni Pivac and Sue Abbott for your input to, and facilitation of, recent hui ... these have generated a wealth of ideas for us to seriously ponder.

.. To the parents who helped make the Yr 8 Day a great success.

.. Ivy Oosthuizen for the beautiful cupcakes.

Early Finish

Please take special note that school finishes at mid-day on Wednesday 18 December. This means that parents are asked ..

.. to please pick their children up at this earlier time if they travel home by car

.. to note that buses will leave APPROXIMATELY three hours earlier on this day (approximate only as unpredictable loadings can heavily influence drop off times)

Lost Property

Please drop by to check the lost property bin sometime over the next couple of weeks. Items unclaimed by term's end will be donated to charities.

People of the week

.. the junior school for a fantastic show this week.

.. the children for their participation and sportsmanship on Team Athletics Day

.. those children who set new school athletics records over recent weeks.

.. Former students Joseph Faithfull and James Agnew who recently achieved the honour of (respectively) Head Boy (Kamo High School) and foundation prefect (Huanui College). We have had a flood of reports through to school this week of the stunning achievements of our former students at secondary school prizegivings ... great to see these students continuing to do well. Our congratulations to you all!

Whanau Hui

A final reminder that this starts this afternoon from 4:00 PM. Mihi and Karakia 4:30. 5:00 Korero. 5:30 Kai. Those who have been part of the consultation process are encouraged to be in attendance if they can make it.

Term Dates 2014

Term 1 - 3 February to 17 April

Term 2 - 5 May to 4 July

Term 3 - 21 July to 26 September

Term 4 - 13 October to (approx) 19 December

2013 Prize Giving Parents and Extended Family

Please keep the evening of Monday 16th December free for our annual prizegiving. The evening will start at 7:00pm and will conclude approx 8.30pm with a supper.

Grandparents are welcome.

Families are asked to bring two plates please for a shared supper

– to be placed on tables which will (hopefully) be set up in the hall.

Remember that attendance on this night is quite optional for 5 year olds
(all other children are asked to be present please).

A reminder that, if weather necessitates prizegiving will be held 7:00 PM Tuesday 17 December.

Prizegiving ... how you can help!

.. Prizegiving is an important opportunity to acknowledge the exceptional achievements of our students across a variety of domains. We invite you to join with us next week in making each child's moment on the stage a special one. See you there.

.. if we proceed with an outdoor prizegiving (**weather permitting**) we ask that parents of pre-schoolers supervise their children closely to ensure that the children on the stage are properly acknowledged. **Please ensure pre-schoolers do not play on the nearby junior playground.** We will set up some DVDs in the library in case some time out is needed.

New Athletics Record Holders

Congratulations also to the following students who broke school records during our recent Lunchtime Athletics Competitions.

	Event	New Record	Previous Record
Mya	Yr 4 Girls 150m sprints	27.16	27.28
Ben	Yr 4 Boys 150m sprints	26.20	26.60
Natasha	Yr 7 Girls High Jump	1.37	1.25

Swimming Pool

Some of you will know that our swimming pool compound will shortly have a major upgrade to ensure it complies with new earthquake standards. As a consequence it is highly unlikely that the pool will be available to users (including classes) by commencement of term ... or even by mid-point in term 1. Thought we should let you know in case some parents would like to arrange alternative swimming lessons for their children. Rest assured we will have it up and running as soon as possible.

School Security

Please assist by keeping a close eye on the school over the holidays. If you notice anything suspicious please phone United Security (4301992) or Steve Martin (4335061) and take registration numbers of suspicious vehicles. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Departing staff

Don't forget to take the time to say goodbye to Miss Williams next week. Teachers love to hear about the difference they have made.

Junior readers

If you have readers at home please get these to school on Monday as we will be doing a stocktake. Please check under beds, in the bottom of schoolbags etc. It is important that all books are returned so we have complete sets.

Year 3 Portfolios

Very soon Portfolio's for Year 3's will be sent home. These are not required to be returned as new ones will be issued at the beginning of Year 4 and will remain with them until Year 8.

Traffic in the upper carpark and around the school

Parents are asked to note that a number of building projects get underway early next year. There will inevitably be trade vehicles coming and going from school and some areas of the carpark and drop off area(s) will be cordoned off. The aim will be to have safety as the top priority and to minimise inconvenience to parents. **Over this period parents are asked to be extra vigilant when they drop off and pick up their children.** The Board will likely devise a traffic safety plan closer to the date and so watch this space.

Classes for 2014

Class lists for 2014 are on display on the hall notice board.

Leaving Books

A small number of seniors have not returned their leaving books. We do need these Monday please so we can present these at prize giving.

2014 School Stationery

As for 2013, stationery will need to be ordered online via the OfficeMax website - www.myschool.co.nz



Search for Matarau School and then your child's class. You will find complete class stationery lists with unit prices. Again as for 2013, the school has passed on its reward points to families (who purchase online), gaining you a further 10% cost advantage (possibly still the only school in NZ that does this). Orders can be placed across the holidays for delivery before school starts. A brochure will be sent home shortly explaining the process. If you do not have internet access please contact Helen for a printed list.

Staffing for 2014

The Board is pleased to announce 2014 staffing as follows ..

Teaching staff			Support staff
Room 1	Mrs Robertson	Year 0 (likely start mid-year)	Teacher Aides
Room 2	Mrs Marvin	Year 1	Mrs Neumann
Room 3	Mrs Burgin	Year 1	Mrs Veenis
Room 4	Miss Bevin	Year 2	Mrs Crawford
Room 5	Miss Blundell	Year 2	Mrs Wynyard
Room 6	Miss Griffin	Year 3	Information Technology
Room 7	Mrs Milicich	Year 3	Mrs Sullivan
Room 8	Miss Gentil	Year 4	Administration
Room 9	Mr Schuster	Year 5 and 6	Mrs Dorahy
Room 10	Mrs Gunson	Year 5 and 6	Mrs Cates (ESOL)
Room 11	Mrs Donaldson	Year 7 and 8	Mrs Sinclair
Room 12	Mr Delemare	Year 7 and 8	Caretaker / Grounds
Class/student support Mrs Walker			Mr Palmer
Special Needs Mrs Comrie (ESOL)			
Dep. Principal - Mr Delemare / Assis. Principal Mrs Robertson			

Reports

Reports will be issued 13 December. The report contains statements on your child's effort and attainment in key learning areas and with respect to their social skills and work habits. These statements are summative - meaning that they have been formed after consulting multiple sources of information gathered over the course of the year. They also incorporate teacher judgements based on literally thousands of interactions with your child over the course of the year. Although this report is principally for you, please feel free to share it with your child. Draw attention to their successes and perhaps identify some areas for future focus.

Finally, remember that no single method of reporting should stand alone. Impressions need to be weighed against those from other methods of reporting including early and mid-year interviews, portfolios, student achievement data and so forth. Please congratulate your child on our behalf for the gains they have made. This year's reports also contain a statement on your child's achievement in relation to the National Standards.

A Final Special Thanks to

Our sponsors for their generous Contributions to our School
Staff for efforts, beyond the call of duty
The Board for its unswerving dedication to duty
Children for striving to attain your goals (and for supporting others towards the same end)
To the many parents etc. who have given their time to help in classrooms, camp, sports days, transport
To those who have given us the benefit of the doubt when things didn't quite turn out right.

We have plenty of exciting things planned for next year including a focus on digital technologies, further initiatives in mathematics, new learning support initiatives, new assessment tools and more. We look forward to sharing these with you in the New Year.

Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas. Best wishes to those who end their association with us this year - we hope you will reflect positively on your period of involvement with our school. See you all at prizegiving.

Finally ..

Q. What did the frog order at the fast-food restaurant?

A. French fries and a diet croak.

Regards
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

For Sale - "Real pine Christmas trees for sale from \$20 - \$40, approx 2m – 3m tall. Pickup opposite the kindy Thursday 12/Friday 13 December after school or email to arrange a different day - drop off can be arranged if you are close to school/kindy. Pre-book a tree so you don't miss out donna@digitype.co.nz "

Wanted to Rent – Child friendly home, 3-4 bdrms, fully fenced. Outside pets. Long term. Matarau/Ruatangata area. Can pay up to \$300pw. Phone Renae if you can help 0210750208.

For Rent - From 12 Jan 2014 Approx, Warm, sunny, Dip Rd home, 3 large bdrms, easy care, flat, fenced section, large private deck, walk to Hurupaki school/kindy or Jane Mander Rest-home, doctor, shop (or under 10mins to Matarau), school sports grounds 50m. Large single lockup garage and off street parking. \$330 pw pls call 027-4352786 or 09-4350230

For Sale - Investment Opportunity Or Large Family Solution, Double renter in Kamo in quiet cul-de-sac: (tenants would love to stay), Sunny north-facing 3 bdrm, 2 lounge house, with huge permitted 2 bdrm flat underneath. Own separate private areas, decks and parking. Perfect if you want to live in one and rent out the other, or bring the grandies for the ideal extended family situation. 2 great homes for the price of less than 1 ½! Too many features to list. Call for details 0274352786 or 09-4350230.

Northland Cricket Family Fun Day - Coaching Clinics, Sun 22 Dec 10.00-1.00pm, Cobham Oval, Whangarei, Gold coin sausage sizzle.

Christmas Sports Camp - 23 & 24th Dec, Whangarei Boys High School, 6-13 yrs old, Try new sports, learn fun games, develop skills, win prizes, special guests, competitions. \$35 per day or \$60 for 2 days. Bookings essential. Contact Rory on 02102935636 or rorydarkins36@gmail.com.

School Holidays Learn to Surf Programme - Jan 6-10, Jan 13-17, Jan 20-24 2014, Age 11 to 17yrs. For more info phone 4344135 or email surf@tutukakasurf.co.nz.

Hurupaki Educare - January Holiday Programme 2014 - Monday 6th January for 4 weeks, 8.00am to 5.30pm, based in the Hurupaki School Hall. Activities include trips to the movies x 3, beach trips x 2, ten pin bowling x 2, hip hop dancing, skating, remote control offroad cars, party days, balloons and bubbles, along with other action packed days, OSCAR accredited,. Discounts available for two or more children from the one family. To view the holiday programme online, go to www.schoolholidayprogrammes.co.nz or contracts are available from the School Office, After School Care or contract Christin on 0274-821331 or info@schoolholidayprogrammes.co.nz for more information.

All Stars-Kids in Action OSCAR school holiday programme, Monday 16th – Friday 20th December 2013, Monday 13th – Friday 17th January 2014, Monday 20th – Friday 24th January 2014, Activities include sports, arts, crafts & baking, swimming, lazer maze, 10 pin bowling, team building/leadership skills. Raumanga (The Pulse), \$35.00per day, 5-14 years. Enquiries & bookings welcome, please contact: Paul on (021) 951-925 or (09)436-3045 e: paul@kidsinaction.co.nz, www.kidsinaction.co.nz

Northland Golf Club. Coaching sessions for new & developing Junior Golfers are now available (both Primary & Intermediate ages).

Ruatangata Church – Service, Sunday 8th December @ 11.30am. All welcome. Save the church for the community.

Christmas Carols – Sunday 15th December, 7.30pm, Ruatangata Hall.

Hikurangi Rugby Club Rally Day - 22nd of February 2014 from 10am-2pm. Come and register to play in the upcoming season. Get weighed and have a run around with your future team mates.

Parents we need your help. If you are interested in being a coach or manager of a team, please contact Kasey on 021542426. We can't do it without your support. Season starts in April.

Free Holiday Programme - Proudly sponsored by the Ministry of Social Development, One Week holiday programme - Monday to Friday - 9.00am to 1.00pm, **When:** 5 Different Weeks to choose from - Week 1 Dec 16th - 20th; Week 2 Jan 6th - 10th; Week 3 Jan 13th - 17th; Week 4 Jan 20th - 24th; Week 5 Jan 29th - Feb 1st, **Where:** Whangarei Intermediate School Hall, **Who:** Children Aged 8 to 14 years old, **Activities:** Sports, Arts and Crafts, Hip Hop Dancing, Trips to Roundhouse Kick Boxing and the Whangarei Aquatic Centre. **Costs: Everything FREE.** To register call 09-4596909 and leave your details on the answer phone; name, phone number and week you wish your child/ren to attend or email info@hardcoredance.co.nz **We will get back to you to confirm your registration.** Register now...limited spaces.

Whangarei Academy of Gymnastics Christmas Holiday Program – Thur 19 Dec, Fri 20 Dec, Mon 23 Dec, Full Day \$35 9.30am-4.00pm, half day \$20 9.30am-12.30 or 12.30-4.00pm, 5-14 yr old, Loads of activities. Bring your own snacks/lunch/drink. Numbers limited. Ph 4376667 or wags.gym@xtra.co.nz to make a booking.



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Year 7 Fun Day

Year 8
Initiation

&

Teacher's
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Ella Martin & Rylee
Dodds in the Fancy
Dress category at
last weekends
Summer Show.
They came 1st and
2nd. Well done
girls!